

# SSMP Community Engagement Committee Charter

## Charge

The Community Engagement Committee, formerly known as 'Outreach' Committee, will advise the State in engaging local communities to **inform them** and **solicit meaningful input** regarding health, air quality, and social aspects of SSMP projects, for the State to integrate into the 10-year/Phase 1 and long-range planning for the Salton Sea. The Committee will advise the State on how to best seek local input for immediate (2018-2019) Phase 1 projects, as well as medium-to-longer-term project planning at the Sea (2020-2030). The Committee shall advise the State in communicating clear messages regarding the SSMP for local communities and other stakeholders concerned with the Salton Sea, and helping to ensure these are consistent and aligned with messages from other local and regional Salton Sea-related efforts and the SSMP communications plan.

## Committee Principles

In its role advising the State, the Committee is mindful of, and committed to, implementing accepted principles underlying environmental justice:

The concept behind the term "environmental justice" is that all people – regardless of their race, color, nation or origin or income – are able to enjoy equally high levels of environmental protection. Environmental justice communities are commonly identified as those where residents are predominantly minorities or low-income; where residents have been excluded from the environmental policy setting or decision-making process; where they are subject to a disproportionate impact from one or more environmental hazards; and where residents experience disparate implementation of environmental regulations, requirements, practices and activities in their communities. **Environmental justice efforts attempt to address the inequities of environmental protection in these communities.**

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/public\\_adviser/environmental\\_justice\\_faq.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/public_adviser/environmental_justice_faq.html)

## Roles and Responsibilities

### MEMBERS

The Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources selects Committee members to represent local communities and key stakeholder groups, as well as for their expertise in reaching and meaningful engaging communities that would otherwise be difficult for the State to reach. Members will:

- Represent and communicate with constituent groups, by sharing information about the Plan with constituent groups and providing input to the planning process that is representative of constituencies.

- Provide guidance to the State on overall planning, strategies, and activities to meaningfully reach and engage local communities in SSMP updates and project planning.
- Support the efforts above by publicizing, helping to plan, and participating in these activities as possible and where relevant.
- Respond in a timely manner to communications by the Chair and other members, including when requested to provide input or edits into SSMP messaging by email.

### COMMITTEE CHAIR(S)

The Chair and/or Co-Chair of the Engagement Committee, with support from the State's consultants as outlined below, will:

- Schedule Committee meetings as needed and by the State's request, with members providing input on the Committee's meeting schedule and overall topics for discussion.
- Work with the State and its contractors/facilitators to develop meeting agendas, ensuring meeting topics are effectively integrated with State planning needs, and email proposed meeting agendas for review and input by members.
- To ensure meetings are productive and well documented, work with State and its facilitators to circulate meeting materials a week before meetings; send draft meeting summaries for members' review and input; and provide final summaries to the State for posting on the CNRA Salton Sea website and sharing with other SSMP Advisory Committees.
- Provide facilitation of meetings to promote participation and inclusivity, either by Co-Chairs or CBI (as requested).
- Participate in meetings with other Committee Chairs to ensure SSMP planning and messaging is well coordinated and integrated.
- Share updates and request input from members by email as necessary.

### CONSULTANTS

- Burke Rix Communications, a State contractor, will assist the Chair and Committee with community outreach, messaging, and other support to the Committee as requested.
- The Consensus Building Institute will assist the Committee, as requested by the State and Chairs, with meeting agendas and summaries, process design, logistical meeting support, and/or meeting facilitation, and will help to integrate the work of the Committee with the overall SSMP Advisory Committee process.
- Comité Cívico del Valle provides local outreach assistance through a contract with the State, in order to inform hard-to-reach communities of SSMP activities through traditional and social media. CCV will regularly update, seek input from, and coordinate with the Committee on its local outreach activities and messaging.

- BHC/KDI will consult with the State and Committee, on a pro bono basis, to improve the State's strategic engagement of local communities in developing the Phase 1 Plan and longer-term approach to the Salton Sea.

## OUTREACH TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Committee will strategically engage with key community partners and stakeholders to coordinate messages and to get out the word about upcoming community events. This outreach list is maintained and updated by SSA.

## Committee Members

Javier	Aceves	Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Tom	Anderson	USFWS (Avian)
Patricia	Cooper	Riverside County
Melanie	Cox	SSAC
Maria	Davydova	RWQCB
Sarah	Friedman	Sierra Club California
Joe	Mota	FIELD institute
Genevieve	Johnson	Bureau of Reclamation Lower Colorado Region
Emmanuel	Martinez	Imperial Irrigation District
Patricia	Meister	Sea and Desert Interpretive Association
Kerry	Morrison	EcoMedia Compass
Luis	Olmedo	Committee Civico del Valle
Marco	Perez	29 Palms Band of Morongo Indians
Phil	Rosentrater	Salton Sea Authority (CHAIR)
Silvia	Paz	Building Healthy Communities Coachella Valley (Co-Chair)
Alex	Rodriguez	DCG Public Affairs
Frank	Ruiz	Audubon California
Altrena	Santillanes	Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Darren	Simon	SDCWA
Dennis	Stephen	California State Parks
Drew	Story	UC Riverside
Rebecca	Terrazas-Baxter	County of Imperial (Co-Chair)
Jennifer	Toy	Kounkuey Design Initiative

State liaisons to the Committee include:

Vivien	Maisonneuve	DWR
Bruce	Wilcox	CNRA